

Message Text

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TAGS: TGEN, MARR, SP, US

SUBJECT: U.S.-SPANISH COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 4:
REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
MADRID 10397
WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON SUBJECT DRAFT REPORT
SUBMITTED REFTEL. NUMBERED PARAGRAPHS BELOW CORRESPOND TO
REFTEL PARAS.
1. LAST SENTENCE INDICATES COMMITTEE ACTION WAS DIRECTED
TO ACHIEVING BENEFITS ONLY FOR SPAIN. SINCE TREATY RE-
QUIRES MUTUALITY OF INTERESTS AND BENEFITS TO PEOPLES OF
BOTH US AND SPAIN, EMBASSY SHOULD CHANGE THE LAST WORD OF
THIS PARAGRAPH FROM QUOTE SPAIN END QUOTE TO QUOTE BOTH
COUNTRIES END QUOTE.
2. SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT NUMBER 3 OF THE TREATY STATES
THAT PRIORITY WOULD BE GIVEN TO APPLIED S AND T. IN FACT,
WHEN THE JOINT COMMITTEE ADOPTED COOPERATIVE RESEARCH
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CRITERIA, IT AGREED WITH LITTLE OR NO DISCUSSION THAT
PRIORITY WOULD BE GIVEN TO APPLIED S AND T. WE ALSO
BELIEVE CHANGES REQUIRED IN THIS PARA BASED ON COMMENTS ON
MUTUALITY OF INTEREST CITED PARA 1 ABOVE. CONSEQUENTLY,
PARA 2 SHOULD READ: QUOTE TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES, THE
COMMITTEE AGREED THAT IN ACCORD WITH SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT
NUMBER 3, THE HIGHEST PRIORITY

SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PROJECTS IN THE AREAS OF APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RATHER THAN TO BASIC SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. THE COMMITTEE FURTHER AGREED THAT COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS BETWEEN AMERICAN AND SPANISH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AND IN SOME INSTANCES PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS, WOULD BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE MECHANISM FOR PROVIDING THE HUMAN AND MATERIAL RESOURCES NEEDED TO ACHIEVE BENEFICIAL RESULTS. END QUOTE.

3. THIS PARAGRAPH STATES THAT THE COMMITTEE HAS RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR GREATER COOPERATION AND COORDINATION, IMPLYING THAT COOPERATION AND COORDINATION HAVE NOT BEEN ADEQUATE IN THE PAST. YET AT THE JOINT COMMITTEE LEVEL NO DISCUSSIONS ABOUT SUCH REPORTED DEFICIENCIES HAVE EVER BEEN HELD. HENCE, IF THESE DEFICIENCIES DO EXIST; THE JOINT COMMITTEE WAS LAX IN NOT DISCUSSING THEM AND THOSE AWARE OF THESE SITUATIONS SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT IT TO THE COMMITTEE'S ATTENTION. WE QUESTION THAT THERE HAS IN FACT BEEN INADEQUATE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION. FOR EXAMPLE, IN OCEANOGRAPHY, CITED IN THIS PARAGRAPH, NOAA, WHICH MANAGES THE U.S. SIDE OF OCEANOGRAPHY PROJECTS, HAS NOT, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE RAISED THIS POSSIBILITY. CONSEQUENTLY, WE RECOMMEND DELETING THE ENTIRE PARAGRAPH.

4. WE ARE NOT SURE AT THIS END ABOUT AN INCREASING NUMBER OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM THE U.S. SCIENTIFIC
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COMMUNITY. CONSEQUENTLY, WE QUESTION THE LAST SENTENCE OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

5. OUR RECORDS ARE AT VARIANCE WITH REFTEL IN 4 OF THE 5 FIGURES CITED. FOR COOPERATIVE RESEARCH, WE LIST 36 GRANTS APPROVED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR A TOTAL OF DOLS 4,367,741. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR TWO FIGURES IS THAT THE JOINT COMMITTEE APPROVED 4 SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS WITH A TOTAL OF DOLS 871,575 DOLLARS, WHICH ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE REFTEL'S TOTAL, ALONG WITH A VERY RECENTLY-APPROVED PROJECT (P3032) IN THE AMOUNT OF DOLS 102,800 (STATE 229884). WE BELIEVE EMBASSY FIGURES ARE BASED ON AWARD LETTERS SENT OUT BY SECRETARIAT. IN VIEW OF SECRETARIAT'S PERFORMANCE TO DATE WE DO NOT THINK THIS IS A GOOD BASIS FOR REPORTING. WE DO FEEL THAT APPROVALS BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE IS A PROPER BASIS FOR REPORTING.

-- OUR RECORDS SHOW TOTAL GRANTS FOR EQUIPMENT FOR SPANISH CENTERS AS DOLS 676,655; FOR POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS DOLS 549,200; AND FOR RESEARCH TRAVEL DOLS 73,100. WE THINK THE MAJOR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR FIGURES AND REFTEL IN THE POST-DOCTORAL AND RESEARCH TRAVEL GRANTS PROBABLY STEMS

FROM A MISAPPLICATION OF A DOLS 7,325 REDUCTION IN TRAVEL
GRANTS INDICATED IN BENAVIDES' LETTER OF JUNE 23.

--- WITH THESE CORRECTIONS AND USE OF JOINT COMMITTEE
APPROVALS AS THE BASIS OF GRANTS, PARAGRAPH 5 WOULD READ
QUOTE THE COMMITTEE HAS APPROVED 145 GRANTS TO DATE WITH
A TOTAL VALUE OF DOLS 5,883,446 END QUOTE. CHRISTOPHER

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